

Ciba

October 12, 2001

Mr. Frank Battaglia (2 copies)
USEPA Region I
Office of Site Remediation and Restoration (HBT)
JFK Federal Building
Boston, MA 02203

RCRA RECORDS CENTER
FACILITY Ciba Geigy Corp
I.D. NO. RID001194323
FILE LOC. R-2
OTHER _____

Re: Quarterly Progress Report for July, August, and September 2001
Ciba Specialty Chemicals, 180 Mill Street, Cranston, RI 02905
EPA ID RID001194323

Dear Mr. Battaglia:

As required by the modified Consent Decree (CD) of September 28, 1992, I am submitting a stabilization progress report for the third quarter of 2001.

1.0 SUMMARY

Stabilization Plan (IRM)

- **Contaminated groundwater in the Production Area (AOC 13)** -- The groundwater extraction wells 110, 120, and 130 and the pretreatment system are operating at acceptable rates. However, due to excessive iron accumulation pumping rates are not optimum and measures are being considered for improving capacity.

Since initiation on September 29, 1995, the groundwater stabilization pretreatment plant has processed approximately 186.5 million gallons of contaminated groundwater meeting the permit wastewater discharge limits for the City of Cranston, Rhode Island.

- **Soil in the Production Area (SWMU 11)** -- The SVE and Thermal Oxidizer continued to operate according to engineering design.



2.0 DISCUSSION

Groundwater Treatment System

Ciba contracted with Horton Construction to excavate and replace a sewer line for discharge to the POTW. The construction necessitated a shutdown of the treatment plant for 22 days. The treatment system was placed back online June 11, 2001. A total of approximately 400 feet of the old clay piping was excavated and replaced with SCH 80 PVC piping at a cost of \$45,600.

Due to corrosion Ciba contracted with Process Engineers & Constructors, Inc. to install new header and piping for the three extraction wells. The cost of this replacement was \$42,460. The replacement was completed the beginning of September 2001.

The treatment system continues to perform as required. Two of three wells are meeting pump rates for acceptable capture of the groundwater plume. Wells 120 and 130 are pumping 3 GPM and 22 GPM respectively. Ciba is evaluating well rehabilitation at 110 where the flow rate has degraded to 33 GPM from a proposed nominal rate of 47-50 GPM. Heavy iron buildup in pumps and piping are a major problem in maintaining acceptable long-term flow rates.

SVE/Thermal Oxidizer

The SVE and Thermal Oxidizer continued to operate as designed with wells VE 1, 2, 3, 9, 10, and 11 on line.

3.0 SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

- Continue monthly monitoring of the SVE unit.
- Perform quarterly groundwater sampling at the vapor extraction wells December 2001.
- Perform semiannual groundwater monitoring in April 2002.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact me at 732 914-2537 or fax 732 914-2909.

Sincerely,



Barry Cohen
Projector Coordinator

Attachment: 1

Monthly Report Distribution List

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